



ECB Equine Spa

Executive Summary

The ECB Equine Spa is most often utilized to treat and prevent equine injuries. It has also proven effective in creating an additional revenue source by treating the horses of business clientele.

Cold saltwater provides natural, drug free preventative therapy and can therefore be utilized to increase suppleness and decrease swelling / stiffness in the limbs immediately before and after competitive events and training.

The Spa is a self-contained unit requiring a 220v power source and holds 520 gallons of 35°F saltwater. Water purity is maintained through a quadruple filtration system and can be reused for as many as 3,000 treatments.

Cold Salt Hydrotherapy

The success of cold salt hydrotherapy is achieved through a combination of water factors:

1. Temperature

The temperature of the water has important therapeutic and analgesic influences: The colder the temperature of the water, the more anti-inflammatory influence and pain relief. At 35°F (with chlorine and salt) micro-organic activity is eliminated and therefore transfer of infection from horse to horse is impossible. In a 10 minute treatment (above the hocks but below the stomach), the core temperature of the limb is as cold as it can get without a single degree of body temperature change in the horse.

2. Salt Concentration

Salt concentration and the composition of the salts in the water have an effect on the tissue response: Seawater contains varying amounts of sodium chloride (approx. 25g/l) and magnesium chloride (approx. 1g/l). The ECB Equine spa allows the introduction of higher salt levels than seawater, increasing its potential healing powers. This salt level also acts as a poultice to draw out heat and infectious fluids.

3. Water Depth

The depth of water increases the physical pressure exerted onto tissues: The deeper the immersion of the horse, the greater the pressure.

4. Aeration

Aeration of the water increases the dissolved oxygen content and creates a massaging effect. Dissolved oxygen content of saltwater is dramatically increased when temperatures fall below 40°F. When aeration is introduced, the oxygen content in the water substantially increases (4 parts per million to 9-11 per million). With the increase in oxygen content, there is a corresponding drop in the horse heart rate (about 22 beats per minute). As is suggested with hyperbaric oxygen chambers, this heart rate drop may be indicative of skin absorbed oxygen which has been theorized to expedite healing.

Frequency of Treatment

Treatment regularity is based on the severity, age and type of injury. Depth of the water is altered depending on the severity and position of the injury (i.e. a hind suspensory injury requires the water level to be above the hock rather than only above the knee). Severe injuries require higher water levels to increase pressure and further aid in the dispersal of fluid. When performing preventive treatment, twice weekly has proven effective.

We advise working closely with veterinarians during the course of treatment due to the unique characteristics of each horse.

With the purchase of an ECB Spa, you will receive additional insight and treatment advice from the Scientist / Veterinarian who performed and documented research on cold salt hydrotherapy (Professor Evan Hunt). There is no additional charge for his consultation.

Installation, Management and Support

A pad of concrete, entry and exit ramps (if the unit is not sunken to floor level), a 220 power source and water supply are all provided by the purchaser.

Installation and delivery are included in the purchase price of the spa. The physical installation of the unit is undertaken by an experienced ECB representative who also trains owners by assisting with the initial treatment of horses.

With proper maintenance, there is usually no need to completely change the holding tank water more than once every 3 months. When treating 20 horses per day; chemicals, salts and replacement filter costs can be approximated at \$100 per month.

Education, advice and customer support is always available from the ECB Equine Team as well as Professor Evan Hunt.

Business Benefits

As a business, the ECB Spa can create a substantial recurring revenue stream. Some current clients boast treating over 20 horses daily at an average charge of \$50 per 10 minute treatment. Rehabilitation facilities should anticipate additional income relating to boarding for horses requiring on-going therapy. Revenue can also be created by treating sound horses that are preparing for competition or by relocating the spa to competitive events such as futurities or racetracks.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the New Jersey corporate Office at 973-383-5511.